

Amendments to the Specification

IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 17 and continuing to page 8, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

---According to Figure 1 the Softboot snowboard binding has a base plate 1 to which a highback 2 as well as an angle strap 3 and a toe strap 4 are attached. In a circular center opening 5 in the center of the base plate 1 there is a center disk 6 which is provided with a radial flange 7 on its upper side (~~Figure~~Figures 2 and 3) so that the center disk features a stepped circumferential section tapered towards the snowboard 8. Thus the circumferential section tapered towards the snowboard 8 results from the disk diameter across the circumferential section of the center disk being larger than the disk diameter of the section oriented towards and adjacent the snowboard. The base plate 1 is also provided with a radial flange 9 around the center opening 5 so that the base plate 1 has an edge section which expands stepwise away from the snowboard 8. The flanges 7 and 9, which are of a smooth design, are arranged one on top of the other. For fastening the center disk 6 and subsequently the base plate 1 on the snowboard 8 in vertical direction 10 there are four elongated holes 11 provided in the center disk 6 into which screws 12 engage which are screwed into inserts (not shown) in the snowboard 8.---